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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Examiner : Cybille Delacroix-Muirheid

JUL 12 2001

Group : 1614

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Applicant : Paul R. Sleath et al.

Application No.: 09/670,106 Conf. No.:

Filed : September 26, 2000

For : INTERLEUKIN 1 β PROTEASE AND INTERLEUKIN 1 β PROTEASE INHIBITORS

New York, New York
July 2, 2001

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Sir:

Transmitted herewith: a Reply to Restriction Requirement; Petition for Extension of Time to be filed in the above-identified patent application.

FEE FOR ADDITIONAL CLAIMS

A fee for additional claims is not required.

A check in the amount of \$_____ in payment of the filing fee is transmitted herewith.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16, in connection with the paper(s) transmitted herewith, or credit any overpayment of same, to deposit Account No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is transmitted herewith.

Please charge \$_____ to Deposit Account No. 06-1075 in payment of the filing fee. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is transmitted herewith.

EXTENSION FEE

[X] The following extension is applicable to the Response filed herewith; [X] \$55.00 extension fee for response within first month pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1); [] \$195.00 extension fee for response within second month pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(2); [] \$445.00 extension fee for response within third month pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(3); [] \$695.00 extension fee for response within fourth month pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(4); \$845.00 extension fee for response within fifth month pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(5).

[X] A check in the sum of \$55.00 is enclosed herewith.

[X] The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 in connection with the paper(s) transmitted herewith, or to credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is transmitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Miller

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JP
ABerma
7/14/01
New York, New York
July 2, 2001

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This Reply is in response to the May 14, 2001 Restriction Requirement in the above-identified patent application. Applicants have petitioned herewith for a one-month extension of time. With the extension, a response is due on or before July 14, 2001. A check in the amount of \$55.00 in payment of the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1) is enclosed herewith. The Director is, however, authorized to charge any fees that may be due, or to credit overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 06-1075.

The Election Requirement

The Examiner has required restriction of the claims of this application under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to the following groups:

Group I.	Claims 1-2 and 14-18 drawn to a polypeptide having protease activity and methods of using said polypeptide classified in class 530, subclass 300. In addition, if this Group is chosen, the Examiner has required that a species of method claim be chosen.
Group II.	Claims 20-49 drawn to a peptide inhibitor, pharmaceutical compositions and uses thereof, classified in class 530, subclass 300.
Group III.	Claims 3-13, 19, drawn to DNA sequences, vectors containing said sequences and methods of using said vectors, classified in class 935, subclass 2+.

The Examiner asserts that the inventions encompassed by Groups I-III are patentably distinct from one another.

ELECTION

In response to the Examiner's restriction requirement, applicants elect the subject matter of Group II (claims 20-49) for further prosecution in this application.

Applicants make this election of the Group II claims expressly without waiver of their right to file for and obtain claims directed to the non-elected subject matter in divisional or continuing applications claiming priority and benefit herefrom under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

CONCLUSION

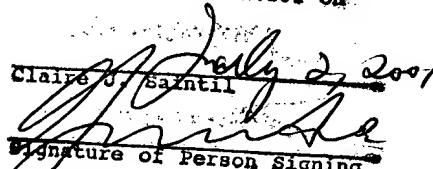
Applicants request consideration and early allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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Lisa A. Dixon (Reg. No. 40,995)
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